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ALASKA

NOV 20 1929

FISHERIES

Seattle, Washington.
November 15, 1929.

Commissioner of Fisheries,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

There follows a summary of operations in the Cook Inlet District for the season of 1929.

The U.S.F.S. "Teal" departed from Seattle for Cook Inlet on April 30. Warden Timmis was transported to Ketchikan. The "Teal" arrived at Seward May 9, where orders were recieved to await arrival of Field Superintendent J.R. Russell and transport him to Kodiak. Mr. Russell arrived at Seward on May 11, and the "Teal" departed on same date, arriving at Larsen Bay May, 13. Departure from Larsen Bay was made on May 14, and the "Teal" arrived at Seldovia, Cook Inlet, May 15. A general survey was made of the contemplated fishing operations throughout the district, and arrangements were made with local parties regarding temporary employment as stream guards and patrol duty for the season.

PATROL MAINTAINED

A general patrol was maintained with the U.S.F.S. "Teal" covering the entire district. Additional patrol work was done with a power dory on the east shore and in the vicinity of Kustatan. Andrew Berg, of Kenai, was in charge of this patrol. The "Coyote" a small gas boat was chartered for the season and, in charge of Jack Tansy, was used to patrol Kachemak Bay and lower Cook Inlet fishing grounds.

STREAM GUARDS AND OTHER TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

The following temporary force was employed during the season:

Andrew Berg,	Patrolling east shore with power dory, May 1, to August 22.
Alex Lind,	Assisting to establish stream markers and in the construction of English Bay River weir, May 1, to August 25. In charge of Chinik Creek weir, June 1, to August 3. Assisting with various Bureau activities to August 25.
Jack Tansy	In charge of English Bay River weir, May 20, to June 30. Patrolling lower Cook inlet fishing grounds with chartered gas boat "Coyote" July 1, to September 16.

STREAM GUARDS AND OTHER TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES.(Cont'd)

George Press,	Stream guard at Kalgin Island, June 1, to August 9.
James Hart,	At English Bay River weir, July 1, to July 31.
Shannon Mitchell,	Assisting on board "Teal," and patrolling fishing gear with ships tender, in places not accessible by the "Teal" May 1, to October 31.

CANNERIES OPERATED

There were twenty six canneries and two floaters operated in Cook Inlet District, as follows:

<u>NAME OF OPERATOR</u>	<u>LOCATION OF CANNERY</u>
Fidalgo Island Packing Co.,	Port Graham.
Alaska Year Round Canneries,	Seldovia.
Cook Inlet Packing Co.,	"
San Juan Fishing and Packing Co.,	Tutka Bay.
Deep Creek Packing Co.,	Deep Creek.
North Coast Packing Co.,	Ninilchik.
Ninilchik Packing Co.,	"
Snug Harbor Packing Co.,	Snug Harbor.
Libby McNeill & Libby,	Kenai.
Northwestern Fisheries Co.,	"
Kustatan Packing Co.,	Kustatan.
H.J. Emard,	Anchorage.
J.F. Toman,	"
Alaska General Fisheries,	"
Harvey Smith,	West Foreland.
Sunset Packing Co.,	Otter Creek.
Edward Gustan,	Pt. Possession.
George Baker, (Pt. Possession Fish Co.)	" "
E. Sandvik,	Swanson Creek.
John Wik,	Nikishka Bay.
Spur Fish Corporation,	" "
Jake Young,	Portlock.
A.N. Nilson, (very small pack - not included in total number of canneries)	Drift River.
Wik and Berg, (do.)	Polly Creek.
West Coast Packing Co.,	Port Graham.
Artic Packing Co.,	Floater "San Jose"
Kodiak Herring Co.,	" Schooner "Alice Cooke"
Aurora Packing Co.,	

CANNERIES NOT OPERATED 1929.

Alaska Packers Association,	Kasilof.
Kenai River Packing Co.,	Kenai.
Gorman & Co.,	Anchorage.

NEW CONCERNS OPERATING 1929.

Aurora Packing Co.,	Operated Schooner "Alice Cooke"; Mild Curing and Hard Salting. <i>Regt. shows only pickled salmon</i>
West Coast Packing Co.,	A <u>hand cannery</u> at Polly Creek, on west coast, 10 miles north of Tuxedni Bay.
George Baker,	At Point Possession, a <u>hand cannery</u> .
Kustatan Packing Co.,	At Kustatan, a one line cannery.
Harvey Smith,	At West Foreland, a <u>hand cannery</u> .
Wik and Berg,	At Drift River, a <u>hand cannery</u> .
Ninilchik Packing Co.,	At Ninilchik, a <u>hand cannery</u> .
Spur Fish Corporation, <i>not new</i>	At Nikishka Bay, a <u>hand cannery</u> , <u>formerly</u> <i>plant</i> <u>George Valaer</u> .

SALMON RUN.

Red salmon did not appear in large quantities until July 17, on which date the main Red run struck at Salamato Beach. Some Reds were taken as far south as Cape Kasilof, but the main body apparently came up the middle of the Inlet and turned back in the vicinity of East Foreland; all traps on east shore, from Kenai River to East Foreland, making good catches, while traps south of Cape Kasilof, and above Boulder Point, were not benefited by the run. Previous to this time some Reds were taken in small quantities in all parts of the district. Approximately 18,500 cases were packed, by twenty five canneries, up to July 15, just before the main run appeared. This run continued for five days, forty eight hours of which was a closed period. This permitted a good escapement into the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers.

SALMON RUN. (Cont'd)

King Salmon appeared along the east shore of Anchor Point early in May and continued until June 5, after which date the run of this specie. was light.

ESCAPEMENT.

Weirs were maintained at English Bay River and Chinik Creek, (Kamishak Bay)

The total count of Red salmon at English Bay weir was	15,407.
The total count of Red salmon at Chinik Creek was	30,540.
At Kalgin Island stream	10,864.

No weir is maintained at Kalgin Island, as channel is but a few feet across, and during daylight tides stream watchman has no difficulty in making an actual count of salmon ascending stream. However, when high water occurs during night, when fish cannot be seen, an estimate is all that can be obtained. Stream watchman estimated escapement on night tides equaled that of daylight tides, which would make a total of 21,728, if estimate is correct.

The writer, accompanied by Andrew Berg, made an investigation of the spawning grounds tributary to Tustumena Lake, at the head of Kasilof River; all streams emptying into Tustumena Lake showed a bountiful seeding.

All indications point to a large escapement in the Kenai River, as this stream now has a closed area of seven miles at its mouth, and was benefited by a forty eight hour closed period during the main run, at which time the writer observed large schools of fish entering stream.

A good escapement was noted at Bishop Creek and Swanson Creek. Stream guard Andrew Berg visited spawning grounds at head of these streams in September, and reported same well seeded.

Streams tributary to Kachemak Bay, Seldovia Bay and other lower Cook Inlet areas showed an average escapement of Pink Salmon.

TAGGING.

Tagging operations were carried on under the direction of Seaton Thompson, of the Bureau, assisted by the "Teals" crew.

TAGGING.(Cont'd)

Tagging was done as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NUMBER TAGGED</u>	<u>SPECIE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
June 14	200	All Species	Flat Island
" 26	400	" "	Nubble Point
" 27	225	" "	Flat Island
July 18	200	" "	Nubble Point
" 20	300	" "	Nikishka
" 22	330	" "	Starichkof
" 23	275	" "	Flat Island

TOTAL PACK CANNED SALMON.

The total pack of canned salmon in Cook Inlet, as per reports submitted by the various packers at end of season are as follows:

Reds - - - - -	91,094	Cases
Kings - - - - -	16,121	"
Cohoos - - - - -	16,845	"
Pinks - - - - -	20,900	"
Chums - - - - -	13,247	"
Total all grades,	158,207	"

TOTAL PACK MILD CURE AND HARD SALTED SALMON.

Reds - - - - -	85	Tierces
Kings - - - - -	23	"
Cohoos - - - - -	38	"

FISHING GEAR EMPLOYED.

71 Beach Traps.

51 Pile (Driven) Traps.

512 Gill Nets.

11 Beach Seines.

HERRING.

Herring in quantites and quality suitable for packing have not shown in this district to date. A number of small operators are planning on gill netting until the end of the season, but reports of these operations can not be obtained until late in January.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On May 24, at the request of the U.S. Marshal's office at Seldovia a trip was made by the "Teal" from Seldovia to Anchorage to transport Mrs. Glen Bowers, who was dangerously ill, to the Railroad Hospital. Mrs. Bowers was accompanied by Mrs. Monson and child.

On June 17, a trip was made to Larsen Bay to transfer Field Supt. J.R. Russell and 25 boxes of salmon eggs to Seward. The "Teal" returned to Cook Inlet June 21.

On July 8, the "Teal" left Cook Inlet for Seward where the Commissioner was met and transported to Illiamna Bay. Dr. Crampton accompanied the Commissioner.

On July 13, the "Teal" met Mr. Hanson and Mr. Moore of the U.S. Bureau of Chemistry, at Anchorage, as directed by Mr. Winn, and were taken on a trip of inspection to all salmon canneries in the Cook Inlet district. This trip was completed on July 17.

On August 22, the "Teal" made a trip to Illiamna Bay to transport Mr. Winn and Warden Hardy to Anchorage.

As directed by Mr. Winn the "Teal" left Seldovia for Juneau on August 25, arriving at Juneau August 30. A stop was made at Seward enroute for fuel.

At Juneau the writer recieved orders from Mr. Winn to call at Herring Stations in Chatham Strait ports, and then to proceed to Ketchikan and report to Warden Hynes for duty in that district.

MISCELLANEOUS. (Cont'd)

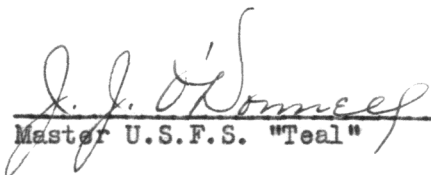
The "Teal" left Juneau on September 1, and reported at Ketchikan September 5.

An inspection of streams in vicinity of Behm Canal was made from September 7, to 11.

Field Supt. J.R. Russell, accompanied by Mr. Ryckman of the Oregon Fish and Game Commission, joined "Teal" at Ketchikan September 14; A trip of inspection was made to hatcheries at Yes Bay and Boca De Quadra, and weirs at Anan Creek, Olive Cove and Whale Pass and all principal streams in Ketchikan district. Mr. Russell completed his investigations and left "Teal" on October 5; a patrol was maintained by the "Teal" on seining grounds on east coast of Prince of Wales Island.

The "Teal" returned to Ketchikan on October 17, and received orders from Mr. Winn to proceed to Yes Bay to get two passengers and thence to Seattle. The "Teal" left Yes Bay on October 19, and arrived at Seattle October 23.

During the season of 1929 the "Teal" cruised 11,713 nautical miles.


Master U.S.F.S. "Teal"